



## **JOBS FOR MONTANA'S GRADUATES**

### **IN THIS ISSUE:**

- **JMG Partnering with WIA to Create Opportunities**
- **JMG Fall Leadership Conference 2013**
- **JMG Specialists Enjoy JAG National Training**
- **JMG Materials and Monitoring**
- **Farewell from Jenny Veltri**
- **Welcome John Danielson to the JMG State Staff**
- **Welcome New Career Specialists!**
- **JMG Awarded Nationally by JAG for Positive Outcomes**
- **September Reminders**
- **JMG Summer Pictures**

# **JMG News**

EDUCATION FOR LIFE!

SEPTEMBER 2013

## **JMG Partnering with WIA to Create Opportunities for Students**

In reviewing ways in which we can continue to grow and how to support our students, teachers, schools and communities, Jobs for Montana's Graduates has been given an opportunity to partner with the Workforce Investment Act Youth Program (WIA). The WIA-Youth program has been around for many years to help support youth in preparing for work by providing services that the youth or their families are not able to provide due to some circumstance within their lives. This support includes one-on-one mentoring, work opportunities, and possible funding for a variety of things that will help the youth gain experience or training among other benefits. We have done a crosswalk of the two programs and found that not only are the mission and vision statements similar but the requirements of the programs also match up well.

For the 2013-14 school year, JMG is piloting this collaboration in the Northwest region of Montana. The schools included are Hot Springs High School, Lincoln County High School, Plains High School, Polson High School, Libby Central Alternative High School, Whitefish High School, and Whitefish Independent High School. However, every region in Montana has access to WIA-Youth services; if you have students who might qualify, contact the WIA-Youth representative in your area or contact JMG, who can put you in contact with the correct person.

In order to facilitate the program, John Danielson has been hired as the JMG Program Manager for the Northwest region. A Kalispell native, he has worked in the WIA-Youth program in the past and recently completed the National and State training for JMG. John will take on the task of providing additional services and doing paperwork involved; there will be no additional work required of the schools or JMG teachers. However, the benefits this partnership will be able to offer students in the area make this a win-win situation for all involved.

If you have any questions or are interested in learning more, please contact Erica Swanson at 444-0978 or [eswanson@mt.gov](mailto:eswanson@mt.gov).

## **JMG FALL LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE**

**OCTOBER 29, 2013**

**RED LION COLONIAL HOTEL – HELENA, MT**

**Look for the registration information which is now posted online under the "Career Specialist" section of the JMG website!**

Send us your:

**\*Registration forms**

**\*Competitive event entries**

**DUE Tuesday, OCTOBER 1**

*\*Your students should be working on their logo and national JAG letter – use the guidelines for the logo event included in your registration information!\**

*\*Make your hotel reservations as soon as possible to ensure the JMG rate! The room block at the Red Lion will be held until October 1. Call 1-800-733-5466*



Featured left, JMG Delegation to JAG National NTS: Phil McLendon, Amy Stops, Erica Swanson, Mary Machart, Della Anderson, John Danielson, Mark Rochin, Jim Lambert, Elaine Stedman.

## JMG Specialists Enjoy JAG National Training

Six Career Specialists from Montana attended the Jobs for America's Graduates National Training Seminar (NTS) held in July in Nashville, Tennessee along with members of the JMG staff. Della Anderson (Lodge Grass High School/ Middle School), Mark Rochin (Polson High School), Elaine Stedman (Sidney High School), Amy Stops (Butte High School/Career Center), Erica Swanson (JMG Director) and John Danielson (new JMG Program Manager) attended the weeklong training. Mary Machart (Culbertson High/Middle School) and Phil McLendon (Frenchtown High School) presented Montana's first ever teacher workshop while Jim Lambert (JMG Program Manager) taught one of the JAG training classes.

The Montana delegation joined approximately 400 other teachers and staff from around the country in order to learn more about JAG and how to motivate students. The group attended pre-NTS sessions called "JAG University Courses" followed by three days of best practices workshops and activities.

Each year JMG sends a number of Career Specialists to the JAG National Training Seminar. While the state program can only pay to send so many teachers, it is possible to raise funds in other ways in order to attend. Be thinking about your plans for July 2014 and if you'll be the next specialist attending JAG NTS!

## JMG Materials and Monitoring

Toward the end of September, JMG state staff will be checking in to see how your year is starting out. If needed, supplies will be sent and a time to touch base will be determined. Respond to the email which will be sent out in September to let us know what you need and what time will work for you. We look forward to another great year of JMG!

## Thank You and Farewell from Jenny Veltri

I wanted to take a moment to thank you all for a wonderful four years with the JMG program! Our family is moving to Mount Vernon, Washington, as my husband has accepted a great job opportunity there. Though we are excited, I will certainly miss working with you and your JMG students!

I will still be on JMG staff through September working on a few projects, so feel free to use me as a resource through that time. Best wishes for a wonderful school year!

## Welcome John Danielson to the JMG State Staff

Hello, my name is John Danielson. I am excited to join the JMG team and serve the Northwest corner of the state. I come to the JMG program with a background in the Workforce Investment Act program. The opportunity for the WIA program to partner with JMG to provide services to youth participants in Northwest Montana will be a great chance to see how two successful programs can work together and provide continued support to local communities.

I was born and raised in Kalispell, graduating from Flathead High School. I attended Idaho State University where I got my Bachelor's Degree in Psychology and then worked in Idaho for Mental Wellness Center, Inc. as a Psychosocial Rehabilitation Specialist. There I worked with both youth and adult participants with mental illnesses.

Although I enjoyed my time in Idaho, I could not stay away from the beautiful Flathead Valley for long and made my way back to Kalispell where I began my position in the WIA program. While at Community Action Partnership I was able to work in a number of employment and training programs including the WIA Youth, WIA Adult, State Displaced Homemaker, ARRA Youth, TANF ARRA Summer Youth, and TANF Subsidized Employment (SEP) programs. I am excited to have this new opportunity to continue to work with the WIA as a member of the JMG staff. On a personal note, I enjoy weightlifting and have recently started competing again in powerlifting competitions. As a former thrower I also enjoy helping coach the Flathead High School boys track shot put and discus throwers.

I look forward to working with all of you to make this a successful partnership between the two programs. Thank you all for welcoming me to the team!





# Welcome, New Career Specialists!

As a new school year begins, several programs have added new specialists. Many of these new specialists attended New Career Specialist Training in Helena this past July/August. Following are new school and teacher additions to the JMG team:

## NEW SPECIALISTS AND NEW SCHOOLS

Hot Springs High/Middle School – Sher Loberg  
 Frameworks High School – Theresa Hoppe  
 Frameworks Middle School – Toni Hale  
 Riverside Middle School – VaLorie Mathison

## NEW SPECIALISTS IN EXISTING PROGRAMS

Absarokee High School – Jodi Heard  
 Fromberg High School – Mike Storer  
 Medicine Lake High/Middle School – Jim Goltz  
 Poplar High School – Terry Falcon  
 Roberts Middle School – Deb Hogan  
 Whitefish High School – Trisha Palin  
 Whitehall Middle School – Maggie Kuhlman  
 Wolf Point Middle School – Matt Simley



Featured above: Middle School Training. Left to right: Toni Hale (Frameworks Middle School), Maggie Kuhlman (Whitehall Middle School), Deb Hogan (Roberts Middle School), VaLorie Mathison (Riverside Middle School).

## PLEASE WELCOME THESE SPECIALISTS AND PROGRAMS TO THE JMG FAMILY!

Featured right: High School Training. Left to right: Sher Loberg (Hot Springs High/Middle School), Trisha Palin (Whitefish High School), Mike Storer (Fromberg High School), Theresa Hoppe (Frameworks High School), Terry Falcon (Poplar High School), Jodi Heard (Absarokee High School), John Danielson (JMG State Staff), Jim Lambert (JMG State Staff/Trainer).



## Outstanding Specialists

Featured below, Left to right: Rodney Head (Whitehall High School), Laura McCrohan (Libby Central Alternative High School), Phil McLendon (Frenchtown High School), Tedi Bishop (Dutton/Brady Middle School), Mary Machart (Culbertson High/Middle Schools), Mark Rochin (Polson High School), Marie Rauch (Project for Alternative Learning).



## 5 for 5 Schools at Training

Featured above, Left to right: Barb Sorenson (Whitefish High School), Phil McLendon (Frenchtown High School), Lisa Parker (Helena High School), Joe Barbero (Billings Career Center), Amy Stops (Butte High School/Career Center), Mike Storer (Fromberg High School), Stacie Nardinger (Roberts High School).

## JMG Awarded Nationally by JAG for Positive Outcomes

At the National Training Seminar, Jobs for America's Graduates awards state affiliates for excellence by analyzing the data in the eNDMS database system. For the most recent complete data year 2011-12, JMG was given the following awards:

### STATEWIDE

5 for 5 JAG Performance Goals

### STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD

#### STATE ORGANIZATION

Graduation Rate – 98%  
Positive Outcomes Rate – 96%  
Employment Rate – 82%  
Full Time Jobs – 75%  
Full Time Placement – 94%  
Return-to-School Rate – 95%

### MULTI-YEAR PROGRAM CHAMPIONSHIP AWARD

Billings Career Center  
Helena High School

### JAG MODEL SPECIALIST, MULTI-YEAR PROGRAM

Joe Barbero – Billings Career Center

### OUTSTANDING SPECIALISTS

Tedi Bishop – Brady-Dutton Middle School  
Rodney Head – Whitehall High School  
Mary Machart – Culbertson High and Middle School  
Laura McCrohan – Libby Central Alternative High School  
Phil McLendon – Frenchtown High School  
Marie Rauch – Project for Alternative Learning  
Mark Rochin – Polson High School  
Elaine Stedman - Sidney High School

### SCHOLARSHIP SUCCESS AWARD

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Montana JMG students earned over \$400,000 in scholarships

### INDIVIDUAL SCHOOLS – 5 FOR 5

#### PERFORMANCE GOALS (15 SCHOOLS)

|                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Billings Career Center | Libby High School     |
| Bridger High School    | Plains High School    |
| Butte High School      | Roberts High School   |
| Cascade High School    | Scobey High School    |
| Frenchtown High School | Sidney High School    |
| Fromberg High School   | Troy High School      |
| Glasgow High School    | Whitehall High School |
| Helena High School     |                       |

## REMINDERS

### FOR SEPTEMBER:

- **Middle School:** Students decide on civic project, hold elections/assign positions for Reach Council
- **High School:** Plan Program of Work, start on fall competitive events, hold MCA officer elections, plan Initiation and Installation Ceremony

### Database due September 20

- eNDMS database entry:
  - Student retention – September 30<sup>th</sup> update
  - Roster for 2013
  - Student profiles entered
  - Senior follow ups – include job and school placement
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grader follow-ups – transition to high school
  - Model services

### FOR OCTOBER:

- **Middle School:** Students plan civic project in Reach Council
- **High School:** Register and attend Fall Leadership Conference, submit fall competitive events, start on Program of Work, hold I&I.
- **FLC Registration due October 1<sup>st</sup>**
  - Registration
  - Logo Event
  - National JAG Letter Event
  - National Cover Design Event

### FOR NOVEMBER:

- **JMG Invoice due**
- **Middle School:** Work on civic project
- **High School:** Work on Program of Work

### Database due November 22

- eNDMS database entry:
  - Senior follow ups – include job and school placement if changed
  - 8<sup>th</sup> grader follow-ups
  - Model services

## CONTACT US

Erica Swanson  
JMG Director  
[eswanson@mt.gov](mailto:eswanson@mt.gov)  
444-0978

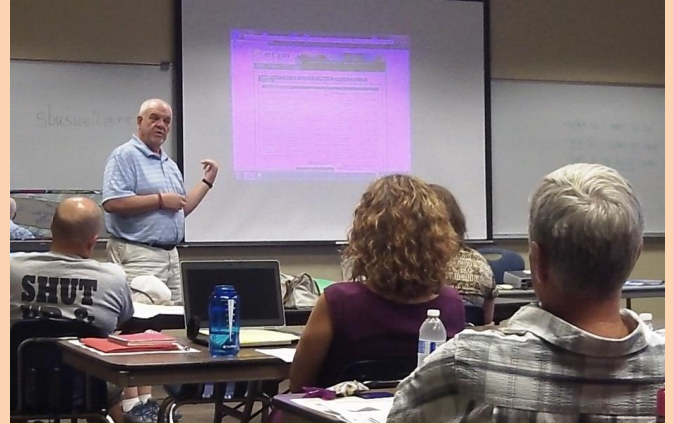
Jim Lambert  
Program Manager  
[jlambert@mt.gov](mailto:jlambert@mt.gov)  
444-3354

Lucille Thomason  
Program Manager  
[lthomason@mt.gov](mailto:lthomason@mt.gov)  
444-2534

John Danielson  
Program Manager  
[jdanielson@mt.gov](mailto:jdanielson@mt.gov)  
758-6221

Jenny Veltri  
Program Manager  
[jveltri@mt.gov](mailto:jveltri@mt.gov)  
444-1713





## JMG Summer Training and NTS Pictures 2013

